THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is already permitted in the film sector subject to certain sectoral guidelines. Foreign Direct Investment to the extent of 74% is permitted at present in the advertising sector. The proposals are routed through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. No decision has been taken for altering these guidelines.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Constitution of Disinvestment Commission

†2890. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have recently constituted a new Disinvestment Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons for constituting the said Commission and the details of responsibilities assigned to it;

(c) whether it will be mandatory for Government to accept the recommendations of the said Commission; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) To secure expert counsel on matters relating to disinvestment. The terms of reference of the Commission are as under:

(i) It shall be an advisory body and its role and function would be to advise the Government on Disinvestment in those public sector units that are referred to it by the Government.

(ii) It shall also advise the Government on any other matter relating to disinvestment as may specifically be referred to it by the Government, and also carry out any such other activities relating to disinvestment as may be assigned to it by the Government.

(iii) In making its recommendations, it will also take into consideration

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the interest of workers, employees and other stakeholders, in the public sector unit(s).

(iv) The final decision on the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission will vest with the Government.

(c) The Commission will be a recommendatory body.

(d) The final decisions in regard to the disinvestment of the share capital of the Public Sector Undertakings have to be taken by the Government. The Commission cannot be assigned this role.

Disinvestment Commission

†2891. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government had taken a decision about two years ago to wind up Disinvestment Commission constituted in the past years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any fresh Commission has recently been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. H. Patel;

(d) if so, the names of other members of the Commisson;

(e) the basis/criteria for appointing these persons in the Commission; and

(f) the functions of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Chairman of the Disinvestment Commission demitted his office at the end of his tenure on 30.11.1999.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Commission has been reconstituted on 20th July, 2001.

(d) The names of the other members of the Commission are in the process of finalisation.